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From: Ham-Space Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-space@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Ham-Space-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Ham-Space@UCSD.Edu  
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Ham-Space Digest                      Wed, 6 Oct 93                      Volume 93 : Issue    47

Today's Topics:

Equipment for VHF/UHF work (2 msgs)

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Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Space-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

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We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 5 Oct 93 15:29:40 GMT  
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!linac!att!att-out!cbnewsh!wa2sff@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Equipment for VHF/UHF work  
To: ham-space@ucsd.edu

I want to get on 2m-23cm with CW, SSB and FM.  
I want to use the radio for terrestrial work and for satellite work.

I would like to other hams experience and thoughts on  
the best way to accomplish this goal.

The options I am considering are:

1A: Use one (existing            ) HF transceiver with transverters.  
1B: Use two (existing and new) HF transceivers with transverters.  
2A: Buy Yasau    736  
2B: Buy Kenwood 790  
2C: Buy ICOM     970

I have been told for satellite work I need to transmit and receive  
at the same time. Is this true and how important is it?

If I don't need to transmit and receive at the same time, I will go with option 1A. It is the cheapest solution.

If I go with option 1B and buy a new HF radio and use transverters, what would be a good rig? My current Kenwood 690 requires modification for use with transverters. Most ads don't talk about support for transverters.

If I need to monitor while transmitting, would I do better by going with option 2 rather than buying a second HF radio and adding transverters?

If I go with option 2, which radio is best?

I like the Yasau 736 since it covers 144/222/432/1296 in one box. It is also the cheapest of the three. It will transmit and receive at the same time but it will only display the frequency of either the transmitter or the receiver but not both.

The Kenwood is close to the Yasau in price and the ICOM is significantly more expensive.

Which is better the Kenwood or the Yasau?

Why would I buy an ICOM over the Yasau or Kenwood?

Joe Wilkes  
WA2SFF  
j.e.wilkes@att.com

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Date: 5 Oct 1993 16:22:45 GMT  
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.kei.com!  
newsstand.cit.cornell.edu!newsstand.cit.cornell.edu!usenet@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Equipment for VHF/UHF work  
To: ham-space@ucsd.edu

In article <CEFKDL.BnI@cbnewsh.cb.att.com> joseph.e.wilkes,  
wa2sff@cbnewsh.cb.att.com writes:  
>I have been told for satellite work I need to transmit and receive  
>at the same time. Is this true and how important is it?

It may not be absolutely necessary, especially on Rs12/13 (hf bird) but for all practical purposes it will be required. With doppler shift and all it's about the only way to tell that you aren't qrm'ing someone else, and to verify how well you are making it in.

>If I go with option 1B and buy a new HF radio and use transverters,  
>what would be a good rig? My current Kenwood 690 requires  
>modification for use with transverters. Most ads don't talk  
>about support for transverters.

Don't know about this - I went route 2.

>

>If I need to monitor while transmitting,  
>would I do better by going with option 2  
>rather than buying a second HF radio and adding transverters?

I think so.

>

>If I go with option 2, which radio is best?

>

The 736 is the most popular on Oscar 13. It's what I went with.  
It has a good receiver, enough power to do cw and some  
ssb on A013 barefoot with good antennas, and nice  
features.

>I like the Yasau 736 since it covers 144/222/432/1296 in one box.  
>It is also the cheapest of the three.  
>It will transmit and receive at the same time but it will only display  
>the frequency of either the transmitter or the receiver but not both.

Which isn't much of a problem - it might be nice to see both  
at once, but you pretty much set the receive, then tune  
the transmit by listening (once you get close). You can flip  
back and forth easily.

>

>The Kenwood is close to the Yasau in price and the ICOM is  
>significantly more expensive.

>

>Which is better the Kenwood or the Yasau?

>

Yaesu - the kenwood is klunky to use I hear and Gary  
says it has real thermal problems. I hear very few of  
them on. The ICOM is a lot more expensive, and  
doesn't seem to be all that well thought out for  
satellite work from what I hear. The extended rx  
module looks nice though.

I don't know what satellites you are planning to use.  
For the microsats, you will need a tnc and a special  
modem and probably have to do minor surgery (if you

want to do 9600 baud) on the rig for direct fm. The 736 has the most data on these kinds of mods because it is so popular.

For Oscar 13 you will need high gain antennas (at least 10 db on each band) and will rapidly want a good antenna mounted preamp and probably a power amp. I worked mode B for about 6 months without either, and it worked and was fun. But the addition of an ARR gasfet preamp at the antenna made a big difference in how well I could hear. The power amp made it possible to use the satellite for longer durations during a pass (at worse squint angles).

Have fun.

73 de Kevin, WB2EMS

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End of Ham-Space Digest V93 #47

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